

institutions was one of providing a comprehensive history of the whole of the London area. The Guildhall Museum has always concentrated on the City whilst the London Museum has in a broad historical way cast its nets wider, but there has inevitably been some overlap, equally some gaps, and both institutions have been subjected to several undesirable moves. It is intended that the new building will provide a permanent home containing attractive, stimulating exhibitions dealing with the history of this great capital and its immediate environs. By careful selective treatment of life and events from prehistoric times through to the present day, and by attempting to catch the essence of the vitality of this area, a pride in achievement and a sense of belonging to something worthwhile will be encouraged.

The new museum will be technically equipped to a high standard, providing a service for anyone who wants or needs it. Its educational facilities will make it possible to deal more effectively with the growing demands from schools — but more importantly perhaps in the present condition of society, greater attention will be given to other sections of the population which previously have not received special consideration by most museums. Co-operation with adult and extra-mural groups, which so often depend upon historical museums for the evidence which is such an essential part of their teaching material, will be intensified, and indeed it is intended that we shall work very closely with all historical and archaeological groups. There is so much to be gained from active mutually beneficial co-operation.

The high expertise of the curatorial and technical staff will be a great asset to the area, and the museum

will provide a house for the history of London as a whole; a centre of relevant specialist help, and advice; and indeed a meeting place with a wide range of facilities which include two restaurants as well as laboratories.

The building has been designed by Powell and Moya in conjunction with previous Directors, Donald Harden and Norman Cook. They visited many museums all over the world before planning their new exciting building. The interior exhibitions are being produced and executed by Higgins, Ney and Partners who will give a professional quality to the unfolding of the great historical story.

Because society expects Museums to provide for everyone, careful thought has to be devoted to displays and other methods of communication. The needs of the layman have to be served through well planned attractive exhibitions which stimulate and extend the outlook of those not engaged in scholarly research, but any worthwhile museum has to do much more than merely interest and amuse. It has to aid the advancement of knowledge by affording men of learning material for investigation. Its staff have themselves to undertake research in connection with the collections; publish the results, and preserve for future study material on which studies have been made in the past, in order that those results may be confirmed, corrected or modified. This combination of popular and academic activity is particularly vital today.

The new Museum of London with other museums already in existence will provide the citizens of the greater London area with enhanced opportunities for enjoyment and learning.

Current Activities

EXCAVATIONS

Fulham, by Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society. Excavation of Fulham Pottery under the direction of V. R. Christophers. Experienced diggers required to excavate and record key areas; also to survey, record architectural detail and work on processing (see *the London Archaeologist* Vol. 1 No. 11). Inquiries on V. R. Christophers, c/o 1 Church Gate, Fulham, S.W.6.

S.A.E.C. Various excavations are being conducted by S.A.E.C., including:

SOUTHWARK — Montague Close (weekends); Swan Street (weekdays).

LAMBETH — 129 Lambeth Road (full-time in conjunction with S.L.A.S.).

OLD FORD — Morville Street (weekends for L.A.M.A.S.).

SURREY MOTORWAYS — Trial Work on Various sites (full-time for Surrey Archaeological Society).

For further details contact the S.A.E.C. Office, Montague Chambers, Montague Close, London SE1 9DA (Tel. 407 1989).

Kempton Park. Excavation of the site producing early medieval and Bronze Age material. Directed by Dick Shepard. Sundays only. Inquiries to 16 Sedgewick Avenue, Hillingdon, Uxbridge (893 9493).

PROCESSING

Southwark, by Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society and Southwark Archaeological Excavation Committee. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 6.30-9 p.m. at Montague Chambers, Montague Close (adjoining Southwark Cathedral near London Bridge); Tuesdays and Fridays 6.30-9 p.m. at Archaeological Workshop, Archbishop Temple School Annexe, Westminster Bridge Road (near Lambeth North Underground Station). General inquiries to Graham Dawson, Cuming Museum, Walworth Road, S.E.17 (703 6514), or Harvey Sheldon (407 1989).